Oct. 31, 1950 N. J. McDAID 2,528,238

ADJUSTABLE FIXTURE HANGER

Filed Nov. 3, 1948

Fig. 1.

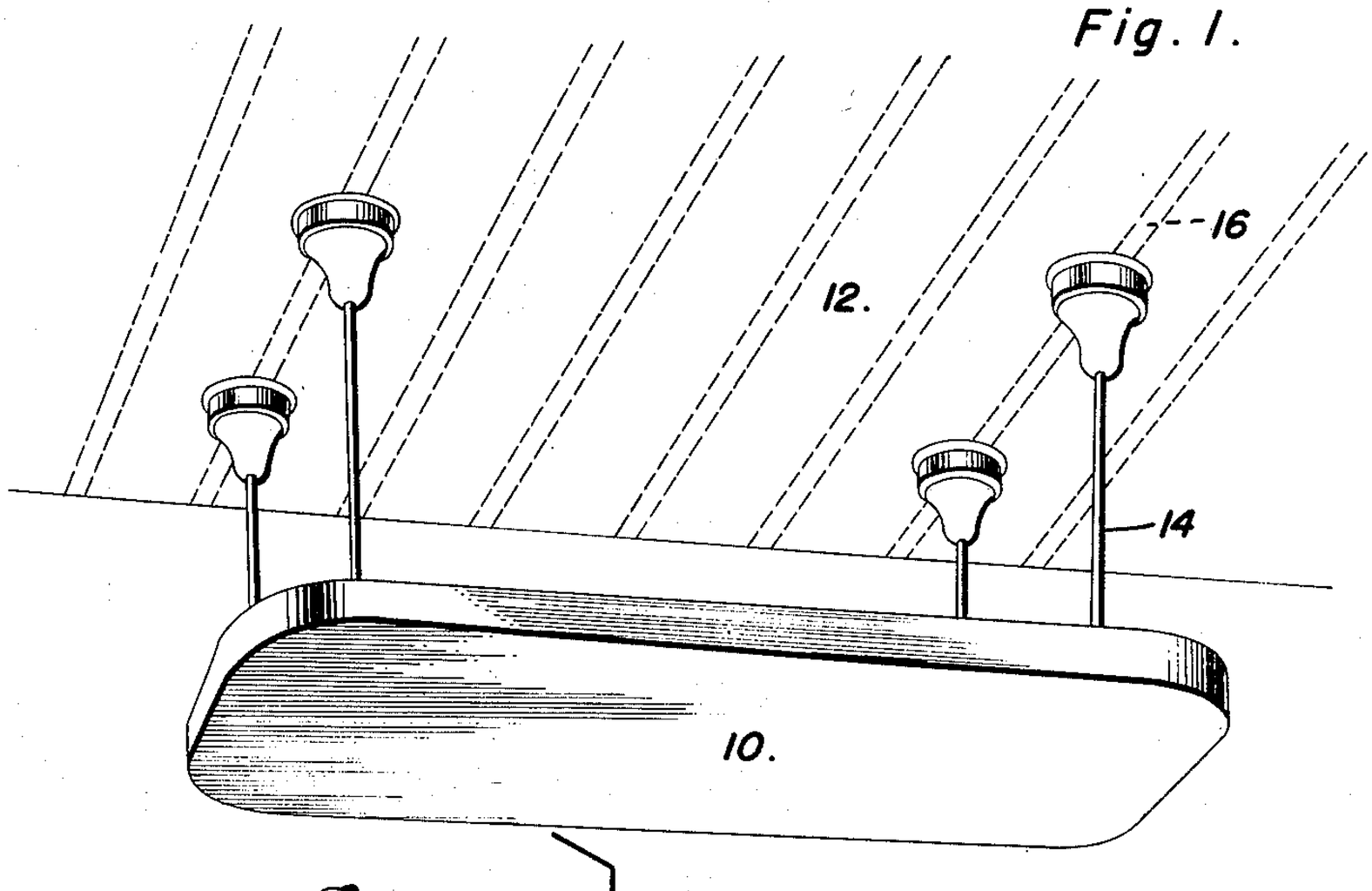


Fig. 3.

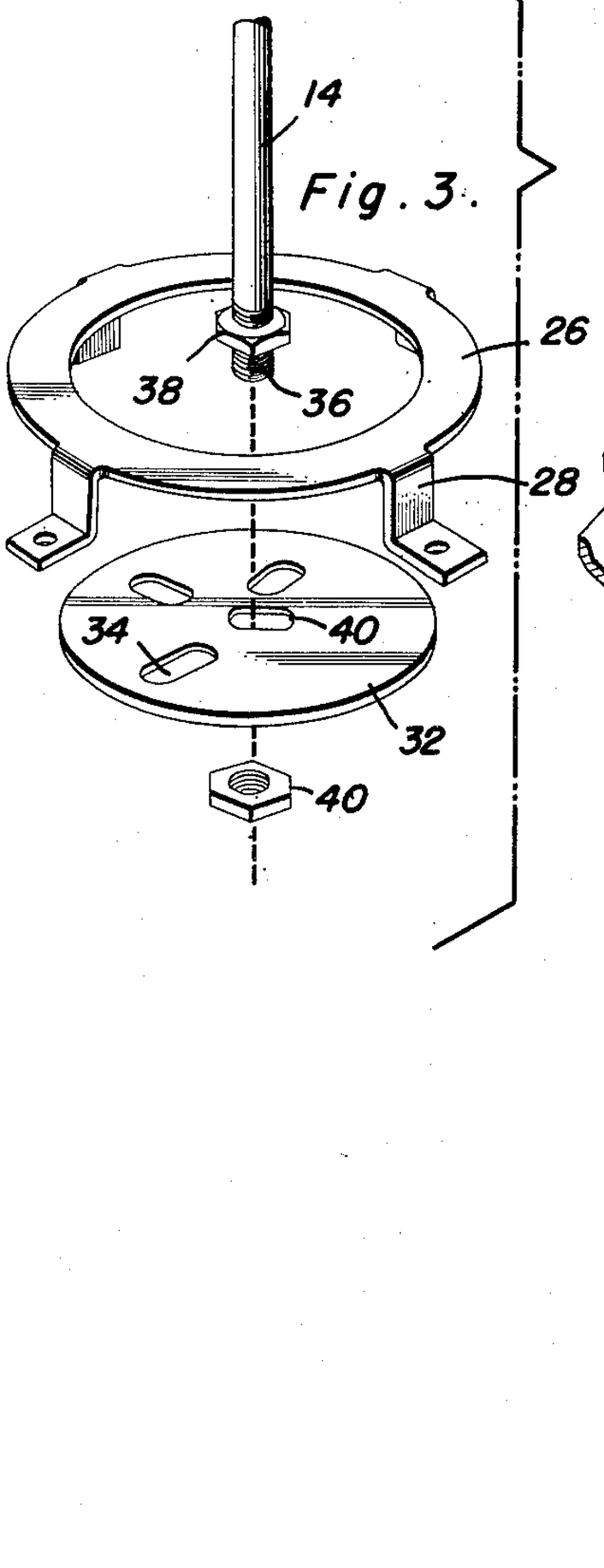
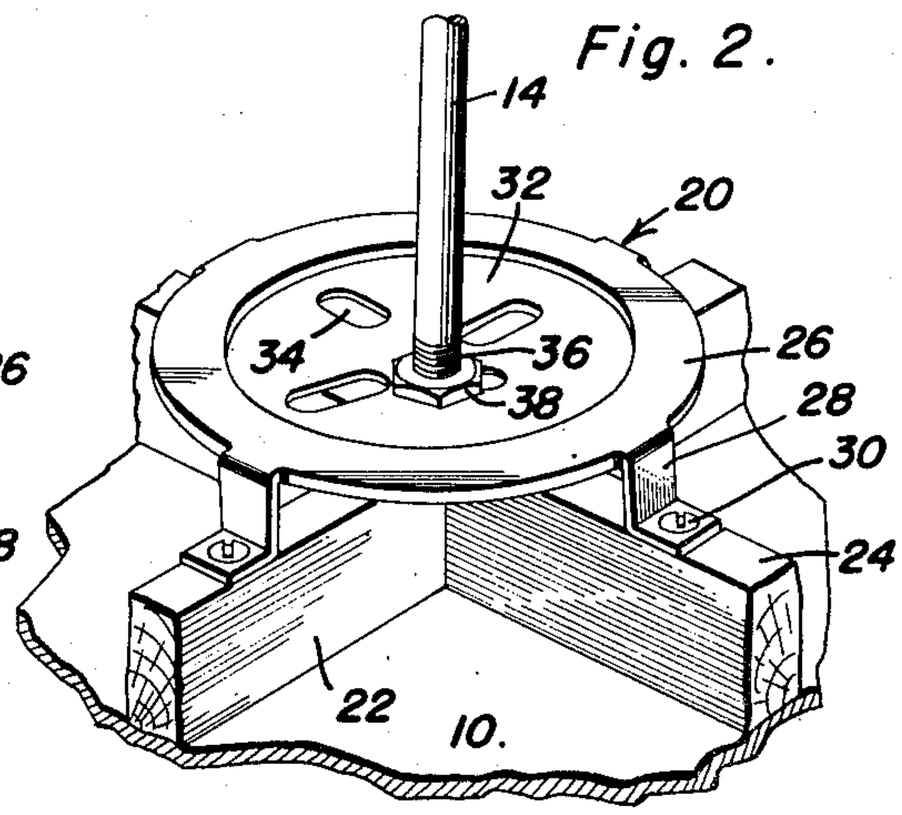


Fig. 2.



Neil J. McDaid

INVENTOR.

BY Thomas A. O'Brien and Harvey B. Jacobson

Attorneys

Patented Oct. 31, 1950

2,528,238

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,528,238

ADJUSTABLE FIXTURE HANGER

Neil J. McDaid, Charleston, S. C.

Application November 3, 1948, Serial No. 58,143

1 Claim. (Cl. 211—114)

1

This invention relates to novel and useful improvements in display apparatus and more particularly to a device for displaying electric light fixtures and has for its primary object to enable a fixture supporting board to be attached to the ceiling joist or other overhead support, regardless of the inter-related spacing of the joists or supports.

In amplification of the foregoing main object, this invention consists in providing a display board with adjustable mounting or bracket members adapted to detachably and adjustably attach the display board to supporting stems or rods depending from the ceiling joist.

Another important object of this invention is to provide a mounting member, including a ring-like member having circumferentially spaced depending legs secured to the upper surface of a fixture supporting board and a plate rotatably disposed between the legs, the plate being provided with a plurality of prearranged elongated radially extending slots for detachably receiving suspended hanger members.

These and ancillary objects and meritorious structural features are attained by this invention, a preferred embodiment of which is set forth in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a display board for electric light fixtures, the display board being securely suspended from spaced ceiling joists by means of mounting members, constructed in accordance with the principles of this invention;

Figure 2 is a view in perspective of the mounting or bracket member, showing the same attached to the display board and secured to a depending hanger stem or rod, and

Figure 3 is an exploded perspective view of the mounting member and depending rod, the parts being shown in an unattached assembly.

It is, of course, common practice for merchants to display lighting fixtures and the like by suspending a plurality of the fixtures from a display board and mounting the display board in a suspended manner from the ceiling. The display board is conventionally attached to conventional tubular hanger stems, the latter being secured to the ceiling joists. Since the display board, with a plurality of fixtures, is extremely heavy, it is necessary to suspend the same from the ceiling joists, in order that the same may be safely and dependably supported. However, the spacing between the ceiling joists differs and the interrelated placement thereof differs. In order

2

to enable the display board to be suspended from the ceiling joists, regardless of the spacing of the joists or the distance between each adjacent joist is the primary aim of this invention. In this respect, this invention comprises an adjustable mounting or hanger member, which is secured to the display board and which is capable of attachment to the hanger stems or rods, regardless of their depending position from the ceiling joists.

Attention is directed to the accompanying drawing, wherein, in Figure 1, there is shown a fixture supporting member or board 10, which is suspended in a horizontal plane from a ceiling 12 by means of conventional tubular hanger stems or rods 14. The stems or rods are secured in a conventional manner to a pair of the spaced joists 16.

The foregoing structure is conventional in the display art. It is to be noted that if the hanger stems 14 were attached in the conventional manner at their lower ends of the upper surface of the display board 10, that the same might be improperly positioned if the joists were spaced differently, due to inadvertence or necessity.

To overcome this defect and to compensate for any irregular spacing between the joists, is the purpose of this invention generally designated by the character reference 20. In this respect, the upper surface of the display board 10 is provided with a pair of parallel longitudinally extending side bars 22 and a pair of transversely extending end bars 24. A ring-like member 26 is provided with a plurality of circumferentially spaced angular standards or legs 28, the latter being secured by lag screws or the like fastening means 30 to the side and end bars, at the intersecting point thereof. Thus, as seen in Figure 2, the leg members 28 are spaced 90° apart to conform to the right angle intersecting point between the end and side bars. A circular plate 32 is rotatably disposed between the leg members and is of a diameter substantially equal to the ring member, so that the plate is held by the ring member and withdrawal thereof through the ring member is prevented.

The plate is provided with a plurality of prearranged elongated slots 34 which are adapted to receive the threaded end 36 of the hanger stems. Locking nuts 38 and 40 are disposed on the threaded end above and below the plate so that the hanger stem is detachably secured to the plate and adjustably mounted within the ring-like member.

In securing the display board, having the mounting member, 20, associated therewith, to a

ceiling, it can be appreciated that the joist spacing is immaterial, since the plate **32** can be rotated until one of the slots **34** is registrable with the end **36** of the depending hanger rod or stem. It is to be noted that the slots radially extend from the center of the plate with the exception of slot **40** which is disposed in a transverse fashion at the center point. Thus, the diametrical or radial slots **34** or the transverse center slot **40** may be selectively brought into register with the hanger stem suspended from the ceiling joists without changing the location of the hanger rod or the proper alignment position of the display board.

While this invention has been shown and described as applied to a display board for electrical light fixtures, it is to be understood that the same is adapted for supporting from a ceiling any type of heating, cooling or ventilating unit or the like, since the novelty in the instant invention is believed to reside mainly in the fact that a unit carried thereby can be positioned as desired, regardless of the spacing of the joists or the distance between the joists. Thus, since the device can be employed in other environments and since it is to be understood that the parts may be associated in different relations, it is to be understood further that this invention includes variations and changes, which come within the spirit and scope of the appended claim.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

In a fixture display device adapted to be suspended from a ceiling formed with a plurality

of parallel joists, a display board having parallel longitudinally extending side brace bars on the upper surface thereof and end bars disposed transversely to the side bars, tubular hanger stems depending from a pair of spaced joists and means for adjustably and detachably securing said stems to the board, said means including a ring-like bracket member disposed at each of the intersecting points between the side and end bars, said bracket member having depending angular legs secured to the side and end bars, and multi-slotted plates rotatably and detachably disposed in said bracket members for adjustably receiving said stems, means carried by said stems for locking the same in the plates.

NEIL J. McDAID.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
D. 30,064	Andreen	Jan. 24, 1899
1,453,233	Ball, Jr.	Apr. 24, 1923
1,557,515	Wooley	Oct. 13, 1925
2,057,273	Little	Oct. 13, 1936
2,329,243	Biller	Sept. 14, 1943
2,332,752	Ratcliff	Oct. 26, 1943

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
345,902	France	Nov. 4, 1904